



## Humanitarian Aid Decision

23 02 01

Title: Humanitarian aid for the most vulnerable populations in the ongoing crisis in the West Bank and Gaza, and for Palestinian refugees in Lebanon

Location of operation: MIDDLE EAST

Amount of Decision: EUR 34,000,000

Decision reference number: ECHO/-ME/BUD/2006/01000

---

### **Explanatory Memorandum**

#### **1 - Rationale, needs and target population.**

##### 1.1. - Rationale :

Since the Palestinian elections in particular, there has been a sharp deterioration of the humanitarian situation in the West Bank and Gaza (WBG) mainly due to Israel's decision to stop transferring monthly clearance revenues to the Palestinian Authority (PA) and a tightening of security procedures (closure policy) which has also restricted trade flows. The Israeli decision to stop transferring clearance revenues has precipitated a fiscal crisis and the closure policy and reduced trade flows have also weakened the fiscal position and economic activity leading to a deteriorating humanitarian situation.

The decision of local banks not to cooperate with the PA due to concerns over their legal liability under US anti-terror legislation is also restricting payments that the PA can make and funds that it can receive (particularly from Arab donors).

Israeli Parliamentary Elections were conducted on March 28<sup>th</sup>. Kadima party got the largest bloc of seats with 29 seats, followed by Labor with 19, and Shas and Likud with 12.

Palestinian Prime Minister Ismail Haniyeh's Cabinet was formed and sworn in on March 29<sup>th</sup> by Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas.

Following the success of the Change and Reform's party in the Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC) elections, the Government of Israel (GOI) suspended the monthly transfer of

revenues which it collects on behalf of the PA. At the same time, donors are planning to reduce various categories of foreign assistance, mainly budgetary support to the PA. Further restrictions of Palestinian labour access to Israel and the Israeli settlements, and a reduced flow of imports and exports across Palestinian borders with Israel are other factors negatively impacting on the socio-economic situation of the Palestinians.

The World Bank has modelled four scenarios for the period 2006-2008, reviewing the potential economic impact of the various policy measures already implemented and/or currently under consideration all of which present a bleak picture of Palestinian economic prospects.<sup>1</sup>

The analysis shows that the humanitarian impact of suspending the transfer of clearance revenue; restriction of movement of goods and people as well as the temporarily hold of direct assistance will be significant. The World Bank estimate that these two factors could lead to a decline in GDP per capital of around 20% in 2006. The resulting fiscal crisis is already reducing the PA's capacity to provide services, pay salaries, and ensure security. The PA employs approximately 152,000 Palestinians, of which 11,000 in the health sector, 39,000 in education and 73,000 as security personnel. This equals 37% of all employed persons in Gaza and 14% of all employed in the West Bank. Given the average family size, an estimated 942,000 Palestinians (25% of the total population) are dependant on PA wage-earners. Thus, already-high poverty levels of 64% are expected to climb further if PA salaries are cut.<sup>2</sup> Similar analyses have been made by the UN, which come to the same bleak conclusions.

Successive closures since early 2006 have led to widespread food shortages and price increases with a high impact on the vulnerable populations. As of 29 March, the Karni crossing between Israel and the Gaza Strip – the main crossing for commercial and humanitarian supplies in and out of Gaza – had been closed for 46 days in 2006 or 53% of the time.<sup>3</sup>

Since November 2004, there has been a 25% increase in the number of physical obstacles (471 obstacles) blocking Palestinian movement in the West Bank (earthmounds, checkpoints, roadblocks) compared with 376 obstacles in August 2005.<sup>4</sup> There has been an acceleration of Israel's plan to separate Palestinian and Israeli road systems within the West Bank. These new obstacles have had a negative impact on the humanitarian situation, further restricting access to land, markets, and services.

Moreover, as the "separation barrier" nears completion in and around East Jerusalem, recent Israeli military orders further restrict West Bank Palestinian access into Jerusalem, which deepen existing concerns regarding Palestinian access and movement between Jerusalem and West Bank Palestinian communities. Approximately 60,000 Palestinians cross through the checkpoints daily. Already the separation barrier has had a profound impact on Palestinian lives. Neighbourhoods are separated from each other; education, medical and economic ties

---

<sup>1</sup> Even under the most 'positive' scenario 1 (resumption of transfer of revenues; continuation of border trade management practices of 2005; a daily average of 32,800 Palestinian workers in 2006, 20,100 in 2007 and 7,400 in 2008; aid disbursements remaining at 2005 levels) Palestinian economic prospects are not good, with real GDP per capita growth declining from 6.3% in 2005 to 4.9% in 2006, and turning negative thereafter. Under the as of today most likely scenario 4 (suspension of Israeli clearance revenue transfers; trade and labour restrictions; reduced aid flows) real GDP per capita declines by 27% in 2006, personal incomes by 30%. By 2008, unemployment hits 47%, poverty 74%, and the cumulative loss in real GDP per capita since 1999 has reached 55% under this scenario. World Bank, *West Bank and Gaza – Economic Update and Potential Outlook*, 15.03.2006

<sup>2</sup> United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, *OPT: Humanitarian Update January 2006*, 31. January 2006

<sup>3</sup> United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, *OPT: Humanitarian Update January 2006*, 31. January 2006

<sup>4</sup> United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, *West Bank closure count and analysis*, January 2006  
ECHO-ME/BUD/2006/01000

have been fractured. The closures, the permit regimes, the gate crossings together with the completion of the separation barrier restrict West Bank residents from entering Jerusalem to such an extent that the city is becoming largely isolated.<sup>5</sup>

On the security front, Palestinian casualties have increased throughout the WBG in the month after the election compared to the month before (at least 34 deaths compared with 15). The security situation for humanitarian actors in the WBG had reached an all-time low in March. The controversy over the publication of 12 Muhammad cartoons in the Danish newspaper Jyllands-Posten last September and the hostilities in Jericho in March sparked an unprecedented surge of kidnappings in the West Bank and Gaza Strip (including one International Committee of the Red Cross staff and a number of NGO staff) and attacks against the property of the International Community. Many of DG ECHO<sup>6</sup>'s partners had to suspend field operations temporarily owing to security concerns.

Although the exact dimensions of an even deepening future crisis are unknown, UN agencies and other humanitarian organisations have begun preparing a consolidated contingency plan to be able to respond to foreseeable additional needs. It builds on the 2006 Consolidated Appeal (CAP) which, for the time being, remains valid. Currently, an alarming level of only 8% of the appeal has been funded.

In order to avoid channeling funds through the PA, some donors have considered a possible provision of aid exclusively through the UN and NGOs. However, the following should be noted: since Oslo (1993), donors have supported the establishment and development of the PA to provide services to the population, which have been previously administered through the Israeli military authorities. The PA delivers the vast bulk of public services. It would be difficult to increase emergency assistance levels quickly if humanitarian aid flows would require new verification procedures and the creation of a parallel structure. International humanitarian agencies do not have the mandate nor the capacities to take over the running of PA services, even if the security situation would allow for it.<sup>7</sup>

In this changing and highly politicized context, internationally agreed guiding principles for the delivery of humanitarian aid are all the more important. Humanitarian assistance must be provided in accordance with the principles of humanity, neutrality, and impartiality.<sup>8</sup> EU humanitarian aid in particular must be guided by needs and not by political requirements, as it is clearly stipulated in Council Regulation 1257/96.<sup>9</sup> In order to ensure the effective delivery of aid, humanitarian agencies should interact with all parties to ensure access and to negotiate conditions. This might entail technical contacts with PA authorities in addition to contacts with the occupying power, which remains the ultimate responsible for public order, health and welfare.

### Lebanon

Following a rather volatile period in the political history of Lebanon after the withdrawal of Syrian troops in 2005, the National Dialogue that is currently undertaken is unprecedented and a first step in Lebanon's attempt towards political independence, territorial integrity, unity and sovereignty.

---

<sup>5</sup> United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, *OPT: Humanitarian Update January 2006*, 31. January 2006

<sup>6</sup> Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid - ECHO

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

<sup>8</sup> UN General Assembly Resolution 46/182 (1991)

<sup>9</sup> Council Regulation (EC) 1257/96 of 20 June 1996, Preamble: "[...] Whereas humanitarian aid decisions must be taken impartially and solely according to the victims' needs and interests."

Lebanon hosts 404,170<sup>10</sup> Palestinian refugees registered by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA)<sup>11</sup>. They represent nearly 12% of the country's population. 49% of them live in 12 overcrowded camps. In addition, an estimated 45,000 non-UNRWA registered<sup>12</sup> and 3,000 non-identified<sup>13</sup> Palestinians live in Lebanon without any official means of identification, mostly in unofficial gatherings, in very poor hygiene conditions and without access to the services provided by UNRWA, such as basic education, health and relief and social services. Lebanese internal politics prevents these gatherings from gaining the official status of 'municipalities' that would entitle them to benefit from basic infrastructure such as water and sanitation services. The absence of an appropriate legal status and protection has put them in a situation of extreme vulnerability. Unemployment stands at about 40% and, in spite of their contributions to the fiscal system, those among the Palestinians who are employed do not have access to social security. A Lebanese Ministerial Decree of 1995 that prevents them from working in 72 trades and professions is under revision with no clear outcome yet. Their freedom to exit and enter Lebanon, thus their opportunities for temporary work outside their country of residence, is restricted. For many of them working in Lebanon as daily labourers remains the only alternative. Most of the families have an irregular daily income of not more than EUR 1.5 per person.

In its relations with the Lebanese Republic, the European Union has repeatedly drawn attention to the plight of Palestine refugees, urging the government of Lebanon to take steps to improve their rights as well as the humanitarian conditions of those refugees housed in camps, underlining that poor social, economic and living conditions lead to despair and extremism. An initiative to dispatch a Lebanese ministerial-level delegation to Palestinian refugee camps end of March 2006 was praised by the UN envoy, Mr. Roed-Larsen who called on the international community to lend its assistance to the Government's engagement to improve the conditions of Palestinians in Lebanon.

## 1.2. Identified needs:

### 1.2.1. The West Bank and Gaza

#### Food

Overall, around 37% of Palestinians in the WBGS are food insecure, while a further 27% are at risk of becoming food insecure.<sup>14</sup> In the Gaza Strip, 47% of the population are food insecure (373,401 refugees and 171,141 non refugees. The number of people who have reduced their food intake is again greater in the Gaza strip, representing 54% overall, while in the West Bank it represents around 38% overall.<sup>15</sup>

---

<sup>10</sup> United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East. Figure as of December 2005. The number of registered Palestinian refugees in Lebanon has tripled over the last 55 years. However, accurate figures concerning the number of registered Palestinians who actually live in Lebanon are not available.

<sup>11</sup> Under UNRWA's definition, Palestine refugees are persons whose normal place of residence was Palestine between June 1946 and May 1948, who lost both their homes and means of livelihood as a result of the 1948 Arab-Israeli conflict.

<sup>12</sup> Refugees of three different origins: 1) those who arrived as a consequence of the 1948 conflict but do not meet UNRWA definition; 2) those who arrived as a consequence of the 1956 Arab-Israeli conflict; 3) those who arrived as a consequence of the Israeli occupation of the Syrian Golan Heights in 1967. These three categories of non-UNRWA registered refugees are registered with the Lebanese authorities.

<sup>13</sup> These are Palestinians who reside illegally in Lebanon. They include those who have lost their identity papers, those who arrived from Jordan in 1970-1971 after the expulsions of the Organisation for the Liberation of Palestine (OLP) following the events of "Black September", and those who were registered with the OLP in Lebanon but whose papers were not renewed following the expulsion of the OLP from Lebanon in 1982.

<sup>14</sup> United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), *Consolidated Appeals Process oPt 2006*, November 2005

<sup>15</sup> World Food Programme, *Operational Brief Occupied Palestinian Territory*, February 2006

Successive closures since the start of the year have led to widespread food shortages and price increases with a high impact on the vulnerable population, especially in the Gaza Strip. The access restrictions severely limited WFP and UNRWA's ability to reach the most food insecure population. As of 21 March, Israel agreed to re-open Karni crossing in a deal closely monitored by the US Mission. In addition, WFP is trying to go through the complementary entry corridor of Kerem Shalom through Egypt in the future. However, food shortages in Gaza are by no means over and it is essential that both entry corridors (Karni and Kerem Shalom) remain open in order for essential food shipments to Gaza to continue.<sup>16</sup>

A further threat to the food security of the Palestinian population is the presence of the H5N1 strain of the Avian Influenza virus in the occupied Territories, as officially confirmed by the Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture. The outbreak threatens over 24 million poultry in the Gaza Strip (poultry and eggs being one of the main sources of proteins for the impoverished population), in turn potentially affecting the livelihood of farmers and labourers in the farms, approximately some 25,000 rural families (~150,000 individuals), owners of small shops, and consumers.<sup>17</sup>

### Household income

The various restrictions placed on the movement of people, labour and goods, and on the transfer of revenues collected by the Government of Israel on the PA's behalf over the last five years, has led to a contraction in real personal incomes of almost 40% between the third quarter of 2000 and the third quarter of 2005 – despite a doubling of annual donor disbursement in the same period.<sup>18</sup> Furthermore, the latest World Bank statistics show that if there is no dramatic change, 75% of Palestinians will live below the poverty line within two years. The current rate is 56% (living on less than 2.3 USD per day per household of six), compared to 22% in 2000.<sup>19</sup>

Equally, Palestinian unemployment has doubled in the last five years. Today, unemployment rates stand at 26.3%, up from 10% on the eve of the Intifada, according to ILO standards.<sup>20</sup> Already high unemployment and poverty levels are set to climb further if PA salaries of 152,000 officials (approx. 942,000 dependents or 25% of the total Palestinian population) are frozen..

Under these socio-economic circumstances Food and Household income are the priority sectors of intervention as proposed under this decision.

### Water and Sanitation

Access to water remains a critical issue and is intimately related to the control exercised by the Israeli Authorities on the water sources and flow levels. The availability of water in the Palestinians communities has progressively decreased. Palestinians in the West Bank have access to less than a quarter (24%) of their only water source (the mountain aquifer system).<sup>21</sup> The average water supply in the West Bank is about 63 l/c/d and 140 l/c/d in the Gaza Strip.<sup>22</sup> The communities not connected to water networks are normally supplied through the

---

<sup>16</sup> World Food Programme, *Emergency Report 2006*, Report No. 13, 31 March 2006

<sup>17</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>18</sup> World Bank, *West Bank and Gaza - Economic Update and Potential Outlook*, 15 March 2006

<sup>19</sup> Haaretz, *UN aid workers: Gaza on verge of disaster*, 04 April 2006

<sup>20</sup> United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), *Consolidated Appeals Process oPt 2006*, November 2005

<sup>21</sup> CARE, *The Access to Water in the Palestinian Territories: A study of the Ya'bad area*, 2004

<sup>22</sup> United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), *Consolidated Appeals Process oPt*, November 2005



Israeli water company Mekorot. Of the 293 West Bank Palestinian communities supplied by Mekorot, 184 communities (64%) experienced a significant decrease in water quantities (WaSH MP, July 2005)<sup>23</sup>.

Dramatic shortages of water occur especially in rural areas but also in urban communities, where the lack of water connections forces the population to purchase expensive tankered water. In the West Bank alone, more than 215,000 people in 150 villages are not connected to a running water network. Most families rely on rainfall and on buying from private dealers at inflated prices.<sup>24</sup>

### Health and Psychosocial

The increased number of physical obstacles, movement permits and road barriers blocking movement in the West Bank in combination with an increase in the number of Palestinians living in poverty continue to seriously affect the economic and social fabric of the Palestinian society and significantly restrict physical and financial access of Palestinians to health care. According to the UN CAP Hardship cases have 50% more chance to be unsuccessful in accessing hospital care than people above the poverty line and the construction of the separation barrier poses further constraints for accessing basic services. According to WHO, households in areas crossed by the wall have twice as much chance to fail access to health services than households living outside these areas.<sup>25</sup> Current health indicators demonstrate the negative impact this is having on peoples' health status, especially for the most vulnerable groups, elderly, children, disabled, pregnant and nursing women. According to UNICEF, chronic malnutrition among under-five children has increased to almost 10%, with children in the Gaza Strip most affected (50,000 of them are malnourished).<sup>26</sup>

Given the ongoing volatile situation in the WBG Strip, children are living with distress and remain exposed to death and injury. The repercussions of the current situation are also identifiable in the behaviour of the children where 46% of them are showing aggressiveness, 38% have bad results at school and 39% experience nightmares.<sup>27</sup> Violence in homes and schools is of increasing concern and is closely linked with the surrounding and external environment. One third of families in Gaza and the West Bank have a child suffering from at least one symptom of psychosocial distress, such as anxiety, phobia and depression.<sup>28</sup> One fifth of children have experienced violence perpetrated by family members.<sup>29</sup> Some 43% of the Palestinian parents consider as priority number one to obtain some sort of psychological support for their children while 5% of school children missed lessons more than 10 times a month due to closures<sup>30</sup>. Given the above, psychosocial well-being of children remains an issue of concern.

### Protection

Despite the unilateral Israeli withdrawal, mid-August, of all 21 settlements and military presence from the Gaza Strip and 4 settlements in the West Bank, violations of International Law, including Humanitarian Law (IHL) continue in 2006. These include the illegal

---

<sup>23</sup> United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), *Consolidated Appeals Process oPt*, November 2005

<sup>24</sup> Ibid.

<sup>25</sup> WHO analysis of IUED data 2004 and 2005.

<sup>26</sup> UNICEF Humanitarian Action Report 2006, p106.

<sup>27</sup> University of Geneva – Graduate Institute of Development Studies, *Palestinian Public Perception – Report VII*, January 2005

<sup>28</sup> Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics/National Plan of Action, study on the psychosocial well being of children, 2005 analysis.

<sup>29</sup> Ibid.

<sup>30</sup> University of Geneva – Graduate Institute of Development Studies, *Palestinian Public Perception. Report VIII*, June 2005.

maintenance and expansion of settlements; settler violence against Palestinians; the construction of the separation barrier in the West Bank and East Jerusalem wherever its route deviates from the 1967 Green Line; the destruction or confiscation of Palestinian property and land and vital infrastructure such as water and sewage facilities; and restrictions of movement that severely hinder access by the Palestinian population to a means of livelihood and to health and education facilities. Thousands of Palestinians are being held by the Israeli authorities in various places of detention. Contrary to IHL, the vast majority of these are held in Israel. Administrative detainees may be held without charge or trial for six-month periods renewable by military order and often lack access to lawyers and information regarding their status. On the other side, several hundred persons are also held in detention by the Palestinian authorities, including a number on charges of collaboration with Israel. Alleged Palestinian collaborators with Israel have continued to be killed by Palestinian militants.<sup>31</sup> Compared to previous years, the rising intra-Palestinian violence and related IHL violations are especially of concern.

### Co-ordination

The high number of implementing agencies working in the WBG, the considerable amount of aid flows, the high political profile of the conflict, and the complexity of the context on the ground, underscore the need for effective co-ordination of humanitarian interventions. To be able to effectively address the needs of the Palestinian population, to maximize the impact of the somewhat limited financial resources and to ensure complementarity of humanitarian programs, aid agencies must co-ordinate their actions closely.

Effective coordination, advocacy and constant monitoring of the implemented actions become ever more important in the current political context, in which the PA might not be able anymore to guarantee a certain minimum level of coordination of international humanitarian actors due to internal organizational difficulties, but also due to donors reluctance to co-operate – even on a technical level – with the PA.

### 1.2.2. Lebanon

#### Health and psychosocial

In Lebanon, the hospitals run by the Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS/L) remain the main provider of secondary health services to Palestinians and a major partner for UNRWA to refer its patients to. The PRCS/L is dependent on financial support from donors unless the political situation and the socio-economic conditions change for the better. Furthermore, the organization suffered from managerial and operational weaknesses. In response some NGOs, financially supported by the Commission, have started to review and address these weaknesses. This process needs to be continued and reinforced in order to guarantee that quality services are being provided by the PRCS/L hospitals to their patients. Recent surveys have confirmed that quality of patient care and infection control policies pose a serious health risk within the five PRCS/L hospitals and demand a proper intervention. Children, elderly and disabled people are considered as particularly vulnerable groups among the Palestinian population in Lebanon.

Palestinians living in poor condition in overcrowded camps, in particular the adolescents, are a group of concern as they lack future perspectives in or outside Lebanon. They represent a potential “lost generation”, and might be an easy target for being drawn in to radical and fundamentalist groups. This lack of future perspective is resulting in behaviour disorders, school drop out, low secondary school enrolment (6%) and increased consumption of

---

<sup>31</sup> ICRC, *Protection and Assistance Programmes in IL/TO/TA 2006*.  
ECHO-ME/BUD/2006/01000

medicines and drugs. According to a study of the Norwegian Institute for Applied International Studies (FAFO) some 22% of the adults regularly take antidepressants or other medicines to alleviate psychological symptoms.<sup>32</sup>

### Water and Sanitation

In 2004 with EU funds, rehabilitation of the water and sanitation networks started in the official refugee camps of Bourj el Shemali, Rashidieh, Wavel, Mieh Mieh in the South of Lebanon and in Beddawi in the North of Lebanon.<sup>33</sup> For the time being DG ECHO and its partners, including UNWRA, is evaluating the remaining water and sanitation needs in unofficial gatherings and camps that would fall within its humanitarian mandate. In view of this the water and sanitation problems in the so-called "*Gaza buildings*" have been identified as a priority intervention for rehabilitation. The four Gaza former hospital buildings in Sabra (Beirut) are inhabited by 255 families (898 persons), of which 42 are Special Hardship Cases recognised by UNRWA.

### Shelter

Many Palestinian refugees are living outside the official camps due to lack of space and because their dwellings and/or the camps were destroyed and their inhabitants were displaced during the civil war (1975-1990) and the Israeli invasion in 1982. Continuous assistance for shelter rehabilitation in official refugee camps has been provided through UNRWA and currently recently funded operations are ongoing. In 2004, the non official gathering of Sikke, inhabited by 1,200 people was identified as one of the poorest gatherings, urgently in need of shelter rehabilitation. Some 30% of the families living in Sikke are registered as special hardship cases with UNRWA. In 2005, a first rehabilitation phase of 102 out of a total of 215 shelters began. A second phase is needed to complete the rehabilitation needs of the remaining 113 shelters.

### Household income

For Palestine refugees, access to the labour market is extremely difficult, proper job opportunities are scarce and access to micro credit is limited. Furthermore, due to the restricted freedom to exit and enter Lebanon, their opportunities for temporary work abroad are also severely restricted. Most of the families rely on irregular income, depending mostly on occasional daily labour. This is confirmed by the high proportion of those who are classified by UNRWA as 'Special Hardship Cases'.<sup>34</sup>

### Protection

An estimated number of 3,000 Palestinian refugees are not registered in Lebanon with UNRWA or with the Lebanese authorities and are thus considered 'illegal'. Some of them are registered with UNRWA in other countries without their documents being transferred, others have taken refuge in Lebanon after black September in Jordan in 1970 without staying permits, etc. These non-registered Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon face very difficult living situations; some of them live in inhuman conditions in Lebanon in fear of being discovered. Non registered refugees are in a situation of social, economic and political exclusion and in need of proper assistance and protection.

## 1.3. Target population and regions concerned

---

<sup>32</sup> FAFO study 2003, Difficult Past Uncertain Future, Living conditions among Palestinian refugees in camps and gatherings in Lebanon, p 81.

<sup>33</sup> Under rehabilitation budget line 6410 with a budget of EUR 8,750,000 for five camps : Bourj el Shemali, Rashidieh, Wavel, Mieh Mieh, Beddawi.

<sup>34</sup> UNRWA figures June 2005: 11.5% of Palestine refugees in Lebanon are special hardship cases (2.6% in Jordan; 7.3% in Syria; 6% in the West Bank; and 8.7% in the Gaza Strip.



This decision will target more than 1,500,000 people, the most vulnerable and poorest segments of the Palestinian population in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, and in Lebanon.

#### 1.4. Risk assessment and possible constraints

In the West Bank and Gaza, Israeli security and other measures were tightened following the PLC election, and as internal insecurity increases Israel is likely to respond with a further tightening of external closures, which will result in further decline of the Palestinian economy, rising tensions with Palestinian society and the deterioration of the humanitarian situation.

In light of this it can also be expected that there will be an increase in Israeli incursions and military operations. Since the PLC elections, the number of Palestinian killings and injuries has already increased.

Internal closures are likely to continue to increase. Since the Israeli disengagement from Gaza the number of physical obstacles restricting internal movement within the West Bank has steadily increased (from 375 in September 2005 to 505 physical obstacles at the end of March 2006)<sup>35</sup> and in addition the number of flying checkpoints has continued to increase in the weeks following the PLC elections from already high levels reported prior to the elections. In line with the perceived increase in the security threat it is also likely that Israel imposes tighter restrictions on the movement of goods in and out of Gaza Strip and West Bank.

The continuing construction of the separation barrier in the West Bank and around East Jerusalem generates additional humanitarian needs, thus increasing the total cost of interventions aimed at reducing the vulnerability of the affected population and decreasing the availability of funds for other areas where needs are great in the WBGS.

Factionalism is likely to increase and rising family and clan fights, particularly in Gaza Strip, already create further unrest. The overall insecurity situation is likely to affect staff from the international organisations and make movement for humanitarian workers more difficult.

It is assumed that co-ordinated international advocacy on issues of general interest (protection, access, entry, etc.) will be able to continue in order, inter alia, for humanitarian operators to perform their tasks without major disruptions. It is also assumed that the Civil Administration of the Israeli Defence Forces (IDF) will function properly and maintain the relevant liaison mechanisms allowing for the effective and timely delivery of humanitarian relief by international organisations and NGOs.

In Lebanon, it is assumed that the Lebanese authorities will continue to give the necessary authorisation for carrying out operations both within refugee camps and in unofficial gatherings. However, indications of infiltration of the Palestinian Refugee Camps by Islamic and other political groups aiming at destabilizing the country and controlling the refugee camps might pose a potential threat especially to the international staff of humanitarian agencies.

---

<sup>35</sup> UNOCHA, Closure and Count and Analysis, January 2006.  
ECHO-ME/BUD/2006/01000

## **2 - Objectives and components of the humanitarian intervention proposed:<sup>36</sup>**

### **2.1. Objectives :**

Principal objective is to provide assistance to Palestinian populations affected by the crisis in the West Bank and Gaza, and to Palestine refugees in Lebanon

Specific objectives:

1. To assist the most vulnerable Palestinian populations in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip through the provision of food, water and sanitation, household income, health and psychosocial support, protection and co-ordination
2. To assist the poorest Palestine refugees in Lebanon through the provision of health and psychosocial support, water and sanitation, household income, shelter rehabilitation and protection
3. To maintain a technical assistance capacity in the field, to assess needs, appraise project proposals and to coordinate and monitor the implementation of operations.

### **2. - Components :**

#### **2.2.1. The West Bank and Gaza**

##### **Food**

In the WBG support will be provided to food distributions for approximately 84,000 refugee families and for approximately 80,000 non-refugee food insecure families through food-for-work and food-for-training schemes..

In the WBG, approximately 7,100 vulnerable families, will have increased their food security through the provision of productive agricultural inputs. Specific attention will be paid to promote a more effective role of Palestinian women in small rural communities.

##### **Temporary jobs**

In the WBG approximately 5,000 non-refugee families living with less than 1.6 USD per day will be provided with meaningful job opportunities salaried with 50/75 NIS<sup>37</sup> (unskilled/skilled workers) per day for a period between 3 and 4 weeks each within the scope of a temporary job creation project.

A further 3,400 families of registered refugees in the West Bank will be given job opportunities preventing them from falling into deeper poverty.

---

<sup>36</sup> Grants for the implementation of humanitarian aid within the meaning of Council Regulation (EC) No.1257/96 of 20 June 1996 concerning humanitarian aid are awarded in accordance with the Financial Regulation, in particular Article 110 thereof, and its Implementing Rules in particular Article 168 thereof (Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002, OJ L248 of 16 September 2002 and No 2342/2002 of 23 December 2002, OJ L 357 of 31 December 2002). Rate of financing: In accordance with Article 169 of the Financial Regulation, grants for the implementation of this Decision may finance 100% of the costs of an action.

Humanitarian aid operations funded by the Commission are implemented by NGOs and the Red Cross organisations on the basis of Framework Partnership Agreements (FPA) (in conformity with Article 163 of the Implementing Rules of the Financial Regulation) and by United Nations agencies based on the Financial and Administrative Framework Agreement (FAFA). The standards and criteria established in DG ECHO's standard Framework Partnership Agreement to which NGO's and International organisations have to adhere and the procedures and criteria needed to become a partner may be found at [http://europa.eu.int/comm/echo/partners/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/echo/partners/index_en.htm)

<sup>37</sup> New Israeli Shekel.

### Water and sanitation

Approximately 163,258 people living in poor and vulnerable communities in the Northern West Bank and Southern Gaza Strip will benefit from improved sanitation conditions. Access to water will be assured through the rehabilitation of pumping stations and water networks and the construction of rainwater collecting cisterns in rural and isolated areas. Training in adequate water management will be given to the beneficiaries for enhancing their good practices in the utilization of potable water.

Some 1,000 beneficiaries' families living in the West Bank will have improved access to safe through increasing their water storage capacity.

### Health and Psychosocial

With the aim to enhance the equitable access to and quality of essential health care services, support will be provided to serve a catchments population of approximately 800,000 people living in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, through working with clinics of the Palestinian Ministry of Health (MoH) and local NGOs. In communities where permanent primary health care facilities are not available, mobile clinics will be deployed to provide the needed basic health services.

Specialized mobile clinics will provide primary ophthalmic services in West Bank areas for approximately 6,000 patients. In southern Hebron District, support will be provided to enhance access of disabled people to rehabilitation and care services and to promote social integration of disabled children through educational and/or recreational activities. Some 120,000 individuals will benefit from this.

In the Gaza Strip and in the West Bank district of Ramallah, approximately 1,865 people will benefit from an emergency medical care programme. Teachers and students attending schools in the Gaza Strip refugee camps and Palestinian Ministry of Education schools will be provided with adequate training on basic life support and emergency medical techniques.

In co-ordination with the Palestinian Ministry of Health and UNRWA a unified nutrition surveillance system will be set in place targeting the whole population through the strengthening of the capacity to monitor, to formulate policies and to promptly respond to crisis.

Resilience capacities of 44,098 school and pre-school children will be enhanced through the expansion of extracurricular activities. In the West Bank and the Gaza Strip a psychosocial emergency team will be supported to respond, immediately after the occurrence of violent events, to the psychosocial needs of affected children and their families. Psychologists and social workers will be trained on the provision of psychosocial support in acute crisis and caregivers will be equipped with improved parenting skills.

### Coordination

Continued support will be provided to UN-OCHA for the implementation of its humanitarian coordination mandate in the WBG.

### Protection

ICRC will continue to be supported in the carrying out their protection mandate as established, in the 1949 Fourth Geneva Convention and 1977 Additional Protocols. This includes monitoring of the humanitarian situation; assessing and documenting humanitarian law violations; making representations on behalf of civilians to the appropriate authorities; facilitating passages of ambulances and humanitarian cases through check-points of the Israeli Defence Forces (IDF); visiting and assessing detention conditions and detainees on both sides of the conflict and intervening where necessary with the appropriate detaining authorities; facilitating and organizing family visit programmes and documenting international law incidents such as extrajudicial killings of suspected militants and collaborators, house destructions, land appropriation/destruction, and the construction of the wall and the release of detention certifications. Within the protection programme ICRC will also implement assistance components that are instrumental to its protection objective. In this respect ICRC will implement emergency job creation programmes, the provision of food aid for communities under curfew as well as water supply for isolated communities.

### Technical Assistance

In order to maximise the impact of the humanitarian aid for the victims, the Commission will maintain a DG ECHO support office located in Jerusalem. This office will appraise project proposals, co-ordinate and monitor the implementation of humanitarian operations financed by the Commission. The office will provide technical assistance capacity and the necessary logistics for the achievement of these tasks.

#### 2.2.2. Lebanon

##### Health and psychosocial

All five PRCS/L hospitals in Lebanon will implement and adhere to improved nursing practice and safe health care practices and protocols. In particular, there will be 90% compliance with basic hospital standards and 50% compliance with core quality standards.

Some 1,350 elderly and 344 disabled people in refugee camps and gatherings will be assisted through the provision of home care, the carrying out of basic home adaptations and the organisation of physiotherapy and training sessions for social and health providers. Particular attention will be given to elderly special hardship cases. Palestinian refugee children with disabilities will be assisted to enhance their functional skills and abilities and have increased functional independence.

The provision of psychological support to children will continue in the refugee camps of Nahr el Bared and Bedawi in an integrated approach with UNRWA schools and health centers.

##### Water and sanitation

For the so called "*Gaza building*", 255 habitation units inhabited by 898 persons will be rehabilitated the provision of a technical sound water supply system and appropriate sewage system that is connected to the municipality sewage line will be installed.

##### Shelter

The second phase of shelter rehabilitation in Sikke camp will entail 113 shelters, accommodating 531 Palestinian refugees, including the provision of adequate sanitation facilities to ensure proper living conditions in accordance with UNRWA standards.

### Household income

Some 100 vulnerable families living in refugee camps and gatherings in the South of Lebanon will be provided with professional tool kits and specific training and more than 120 individual beneficiaries from previous income generating operations in the area of Beirut and the Bekaa will benefit from follow-up activities. More than 1,166 dependants will also benefit from these activities.

### Protection and assistance to non registered Palestinian refugees

Assistance will be provided to an estimated 3,000 non-registered Palestinians. This will include targeted non-food assistance, vocational training support and the provision of legal aid to approximately 120 cases.

### Lessons Learned

The aforementioned components have been elaborated taking into account lessons learned from previous interventions. A comprehensive evaluation of COM/ECHO funded humanitarian operations in the Middle East end of 2004 provided a basis on which to validate, in most cases, ECHO's work in the region. However, the following lessons learned have been integrated in the strategy outlined above:

- As recommended by the evaluators and confirmed by ECHO's experts in the field, greater emphasis has been put on psychosocial interventions. ECHO does support more psychosocial interventions, while at the same time focusing on their impact, namely through the development of a sector strategy and measurable indicators and results.
- ECHO's interventions in the water and sanitation sector as suggested above do prioritize community based interventions, focusing on the water supply of institutions, over individual water cistern constructions, the approach followed until 2005. However, there are clear constraints on water infrastructure construction, which is inherent to a more community based approach, where Israeli approval is required under complicated and stringent guidelines involving the Joint Water Committee and the Israeli Defence Forces. Thus, cisterns construction is still one component of ECHO's strategy in the water and sanitation sector. Here another lesson learnt was the filling of water cisterns whenever the construction works have been finished outside of the rainy season.
- The main problem identified in the health sector was the fragmented system of health providers, which lead to overlap and duplication of provision of services in some villages and the non provision of services in other villages. The primary health care system proved to be inefficient, ineffective and costly and there was a significant lack of coordination amongst medical NGOs and between them and the Ministry of Health. Therefore ECHO developed a coherent, comprehensive strategy that involves all the key players and addresses the issues of equitable access, avoidance of duplication, cost-effectiveness, capacity-building, community mobilization and a seamless coordination between all health providers. This strategy is based on similar strategies that have been developed and implemented successfully by DG ECHO in the Balkans and in Africa, taking into account the particularities of the WBG context and health system.
- Following the 2004 evaluation DG ECHO has supported targeted health care operations for elderly and handicapped people, including home based care in the Palestinian camps in Lebanon. Health projects include both preventive and curative components and mainly focus on improving PRCS/L secondary health services. Psycho-social projects for children and adolescents are linked with UNWRA



activities and will become much more community-based oriented. These projects are complementary to initiatives that have been supported by the EC delegation in Beirut. Community funds have been used to improve water and sanitation in the Palestinian camps<sup>38</sup> and unofficial gatherings<sup>39</sup>. DG ECHO and its partners, including UNWRA, are evaluating the remaining water and sanitation needs.

- The United Nations, especially UNWRA<sup>40</sup>, remain a substantive partner in the implementation of EC funded projects.
- Regular coordination is maintained and strengthened with the task managers within the EC Representation in Jerusalem and EC delegation in Beirut as well as with the desk officers in headquarters to assure complementarity of EC funded humanitarian operations and developmental programmes.

---

<sup>38</sup> Under rehabilitation budget line 6410 with a budget of EUR 8,75 million for five camps : Bourj el Shemali, Rashiddieh, Wavel, Mieh Mieh, Beddawi.

<sup>39</sup> Under the humanitarian budget line with a budget of EUR 6,385,072 for unofficial gatherings

<sup>40</sup> Total EC contribution to UNWRA in 2005 amounts to EUR 96,5 million: EUR 64 million as contribution to the General Fund, EUR 14 million: food aid; EUR 8,5 million: humanitarian aid, EUR 10 million: education in Jordan, Lebanon and Syria.

Given the overall volatile security situation in the affected areas, and the above described reinforced movement restrictions imposed by the IDF on both persons and goods, which had seriously hampered the implementation of humanitarian operations and the movement of humanitarian personnel, it is crucial that the implementation period covered by this decision is adequate to ensure the completion of all operations taking into account possible delays or halt of the activities. Therefore, the duration for the implementation of this decision will be 18 months. Humanitarian operations funded by this decision must be implemented within this period.

Start Date: 1 May 2006

Depending on the evolution of the situation in the field, the Commission reserves the right to terminate the agreements signed with the implementing humanitarian organisations where the suspension of activities is for a period of more than one third of the total planned duration of the action. In this respect, the procedure established in the general conditions of the specific agreement will be applied.

Funds made available under funding decisions listed below have been allocated or are in the process of being allocated through identified implementing partners

Dated : 10 April 2006  
Source : HOPE

## 5 - Other donors and donor co-ordination mechanisms.

Donors in LEBANON/PALESTINIAN TERRITORY, OCCUPIED the last 12 months					
1. EU Members States (*)		2. European Commission		3. Others	
	EUR		EUR		EUR
Austria		DG ECHO	32,438,000		
Belgium	2,580,000	Other services			
Cyprus					
Czech republic					
Denmark	5,844,505				
Estonia					
Finland	600,000				
France	1,648,069				
Germany	1,105,000				
Greece					
Hungary					
Ireland	1,700,000				
Italy					
Latvia					
Lithuania					
Luxembourg	149,215				
Malta					
Netherlands	2,993,810				
Poland					
Portugal					
Slovakia					
Slovenie					
Spain	3,790,000				
Sweden	5,411,959				
United kingdom					
Subtotal	25,822,558	Subtotal	32,438,000	Subtotal	0
		Grand total	58,260,558		

Dated : 10 April 2006

(\*) Source : DG ECHO 14 Points reporting for Members States. <https://hac.cec.eu.int>

Empty cells means either no information is available or no contribution.

## 6 - Amount of decision and distribution by specific objectives:

6.1. - Total amount of the decision: EUR 34,000,000

## 6.2. - Budget breakdown by specific objectives

<b>Principal objective:</b> <i>to provide assistance to Palestinian populations affected by the crisis in the West Bank and Gaza, and to Palestine refugees in Lebanon</i>				
<b>Specific objectives</b>	<b>Allocated amount by specific objective (EUR)</b>	<b>Geographical area of operation</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Potential partners<sup>41</sup></b>
<b>Specific objective 1:</b> To assist the most vulnerable Palestinian populations in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip through the provision of food, water and sanitation, household income, health and psychosocial support, protection and co-ordination	29,640,000	West Bank and Gaza	Food; water and sanitation; household income; health and psychosocial, protection and coordination	- ACH- ESP - CARE – AUT - CARE - FR - COOPI - CROIX-ROUGE - CICR- ICRC - CH - CROIX-ROUGE - DNK - CROIX-ROUGE - FRA - CROIX-ROUGE - ITA - DIE JOHANNITER, (DEU) - GCIDS - MDM - FRA - MEDICO INTERNATIONAL - MERLIN - OXFAM - UK - PREMIERE URGENCE - SAVE THE CHILDREN - NLD - TERRE DES HOMMES (TDH) - ITA - UN - UNICEF – BEL/ - UN – UNOCHA - UN – UNRWA - UN - WFP-PAM
<b>Specific objective 2:</b> To assist the poorest Palestine refugees in Lebanon through the provision of health and psychosocial support, water and sanitation, household income, shelter rehabilitation and protection	3,770,000	Lebanon	Health and psychosocial; water and sanitation, household income; shelter rehabilitation and protection.	- CARITAS – AUT - DRC - ENFANTS REFUGIES DU MONDE - HANDICAP (FR) - MAP - MPDL - PREMIERE URGENCE - UN – UNRWA

<sup>41</sup> ACCION CONTRA EL HAMBRE, (ESP), CARE FRANCE, CARE OESTERREICH - VEREIN FÜR ENTWICKLUNGSZUSAMMENARBEIT UND HUMANITÄRE HILFE, CARITAS AUSTRIA, COMITE INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE (CICR), COOPERAZIONE INTERNAZIONALE (ITA), CROCE ROSSA ITALIANA, CROIX-ROUGE FRANCAISE, DANSK FLYGTNINGEHJÆLP, DANSK RØDE KORS, ENFANTS REFUGIES DU MONDE, FONDAZIONE TERRE DES HOMMES ITALIA ONLUS, GREEK COMMITTEE FOR INTERNATIONAL DEMOCRATIC SOLIDARITY, (GRC), HANDICAP INTERNATIONAL (FR), JOHANNITER-UNFALL-HILFE e.V. (DEU), MEDECINS DU MONDE, MEDICAL AID FOR PALESTINIANS (GBR), MEDICAL EMERGENCY RELIEF INTERNATIONAL (GBR), MEDICO INTERNATIONAL, (DEU), MOVIMIENTO POR LA PAZ, EL DESARME Y LA LIBERTAD, (E), OXFAM (GB), PREMIERE URGENCE, (FR), SAVE THE CHILDREN (NLD), UNICEF, UNITED NATIONS - WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME, UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN NEAR EAST, UNITED NATIONS, OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS

Specific objective 3: To maintain a technical assistance capacity in the field, to assess needs, appraise project proposals and to coordinate and monitor the implementation of operations	250,000	Jerusalem	Technical Assistance	- ECHO
Contingency reserve, max. 10% of the total amount	340,000			
TOTAL:	34,000,000			



## 7 - Evaluation

Under article 18 of Council Regulation (EC) No.1257/96 of 20 June 1996 concerning humanitarian aid the Commission is required to "regularly assess humanitarian aid operations financed by the EU in order to establish whether they have achieved their objectives and to produce guidelines for improving the effectiveness of subsequent operations." These evaluations are structured and organised in overarching and cross cutting issues forming part of DG ECHO's Annual Strategy such as child-related issues, the security of relief workers, respect for human rights, gender. Each year, an indicative Evaluation Programme is established after a consultative process. This programme is flexible and can be adapted to include evaluations not foreseen in the initial programme, in response to particular events or changing circumstances. More information can be obtained at:

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/echo/evaluation/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/echo/evaluation/index_en.htm).

## 8 - Budget Impact article 23 02 01

	CE (EUR)
Initial Available Appropriations for 2006	470,429,000
Supplementary Budgets	
Transfers	
<b>Total Available Credits</b>	470,429,000
Total executed to date (by 10/04/2006)	262,550,000
Available remaining	207,879,000
<b>Total amount of the Decision</b>	34,000,000

**COMMISSION DECISION**  
**of**  
**on the financing of humanitarian operations from the general budget of the European Union in the West Bank and Gaza and the Lebanese Republic**

**THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,**

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,  
Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No.1257/96 of 20 June 1996 concerning humanitarian aid<sup>42</sup>, and in particular Article 15(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Nearly six years of conflict, the policy of closures and restrictions on movements, as well as the ongoing construction of the separation barrier in the West Bank and around East Jerusalem, have led to a serious breakdown, affecting every aspect of daily life and stretching to a breaking point the living conditions of Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip;
- (2) Despite efforts towards the resumption of the peace process between the Israeli and Palestinian side, the humanitarian situation in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip did not show any significant improvement in 2006;
- (3) On the contrary, the humanitarian crisis, exacerbated by the overall security situation, a renewed tightening of closures and movement restrictions, is worsening and there are now 56% of Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip living below the poverty line and surviving thanks to international aid;
- (4) The suspension of the monthly transfer of revenues which the Government of Israel collects on behalf of the Palestinian National Authority and a reduction of various categories of foreign assistance as well as further restrictions of Palestinian labour access to Israel and the Israeli settlements, and a reduced flow of imports and exports across Palestinian borders with Israel will contribute to a further deterioration of the humanitarian situation in the West Bank and Gaza;
- (5) One third of the more than four million registered Palestine refugees across the Middle East live in refugee camps, in most cases, and in Lebanon in particular, in precarious hygiene and sanitation conditions and in dilapidated, often life-threatening shelters, with little attention from the international donor community;
- (6) It is essential to make food, temporary jobs, water and sanitation, shelter and health services available, as well as to provide protection and co-ordination;
- (7) An assessment of the humanitarian situation leads to the conclusion that humanitarian aid operations should be financed by the EU for a period of 18 months;
- (8) In order to maximise the impact of humanitarian aid for the victims, it is necessary to maintain a technical assistance capacity in the field.

---

<sup>42</sup> OJ L 163, 2.7.1996, p. 1-6  
[ECHO/-ME/BUD/2006/01000](#)

- (9) It is estimated that an amount of EUR 34,000,000 from budget line 23 02 01 of the general budget of the European Union is necessary to provide humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, as well as to the poorest Palestine refugees in Lebanon, taking into account the available budget, other donors-contributions and other factors;
- (10) In accordance with Article 17 (3) of Regulation (EC) No.1257/96, the Humanitarian Aid Committee gave a favourable opinion on 23 May 2006.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

*Article 1*

1. In accordance with the objectives and general principles of humanitarian aid, the Commission hereby approves a total amount of EUR 34,000,000 for humanitarian aid operations to populations affected by the conflict in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, and to Palestine refugees in Lebanon by using line 23 02 01 of the 2006 general budget of the European Union.
2. In accordance with article 2 and 4 of Council Regulation No.1257/96, the humanitarian operations shall be implemented in the pursuance of the following specific objectives:
  - To assist the most vulnerable Palestinian populations in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip through the provision of food, water and sanitation, household income, health and psychosocial support, protection and co-ordination
  - To assist the poorest Palestine refugees in Lebanon through the provision of health and psychosocial support, water and sanitation, household income, shelter rehabilitation and protection
  - To maintain a technical assistance capacity in the field, to assess needs, appraise project proposals and to coordinate and monitor the implementation of operations

The amounts allocated to each of these specific objectives and to the contingency reserve are listed in the annex to this decision

*Article 2*

Without prejudice to the use of the contingency reserve, the Commission may, where this is justified by the humanitarian situation, re-allocate the funding levels established for one of the specific objectives set out in Article 1(2) to another objective mentioned therein, provided that the re-allocated amount represents less than 20% of the global amount covered by this Decision.

*Article 3*

1. The duration for the implementation of this decision shall be for a maximum period of 18 months, starting on 01 May 2006.
2. Expenditure under this Decision shall be eligible from 01 May 2006.
3. If the operations envisaged in this Decision are suspended owing to *force majeure* or comparable circumstances, the period of suspension shall not be taken into account for the calculation of the duration of the implementation of this Decision.

*Article 4*

This Decision shall take effect on the date of its adoption.

Done at Brussels,

For the Commission  
Member of the Commission

## Annex: Breakdown of allocations by specific objectives

<b>Principal objective:</b> is to provide assistance to Palestinian populations affected by the crisis in the West Bank and Gaza, and to Palestine refugees in Lebanon	
<b>Specific objectives</b>	<b>Amount per specific objective (EUR)</b>
To assist the most vulnerable Palestinian populations in the West Bank and Gaza through the provision of food, water and sanitation, household income, health and psycho-social support, protection and co-ordination	29,640,000
To assist the poorest Palestine refugees in Lebanon through the provision of health and psycho-social support, water and sanitation, household income, shelter rehabilitation and protection	3,770,000
To maintain a technical assistance capacity in the field, to assess needs, appraise project proposals and to coordinate and monitor the implementation of operations	250,000
Contingency reserve	340,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>34,000,000</b>